

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

KATHRYN GAY,

Plaintiff,

v.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF
PHILADELPHIA, ELENI LANTZOUNI,
JENNIFER LOUIS-JACQUES, MICHELE
ZUCKER, LEELA JACKSON, KATIE
HOEVELER, MORTIMER PONCZ, AND
ALAN R. COHEN

Defendants.

Case No. 2:18-cv-02880-NIQA

ORDER

AND NOW, this _____ day of _____, 2021, upon consideration of Defendants' Motion *In Limine* To limit the testimony of Lisa Germanis to (1) the duration of Plaintiff's employment, and (2) Plaintiff's salary and all responses thereto, it is **HEREBY ORDERED AND DECREED** that the Motion is **GRANTED**. The testimony of Lisa Germanis shall be limited to (1) the duration of Plaintiff's employment, and (2) Plaintiff's salary ONLY.

J.

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
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KATHRYN GAY,

Plaintiff,

v.

CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL OF
PHILADELPHIA, ELENi LANTZOUNI,
JENNIFER LOUIS-JACQUES, MICHELE
ZUCKER, LEELA JACKSON, KATIE
HOEVELER, MORTIMER PONCZ, AND
ALAN R. COHEN

Defendants.

Case No. 2:18-cv-02880-NIQA

**MOTION *IN LIMINE* OF DEFENDANTS TO LIMIT THE TESTIMONY OF
LISA GERMANIS**

Pursuant to Rules 16 and 37 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Defendants Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Eleni Lantzouni, Jennifer Louis-Jacques, Michele Zucker, Leela Jackson, Katie Hoeveler, Mortimer Poncz, and Alan R. Cohen (“Defendants”), by and through their undersigned counsel, hereby moves this Court to limit the testimony of Lisa Germanis to only (1) the duration of Plaintiff’s employment, and (2) Plaintiff’s salary. In support of this motion, Defendants incorporate the following memorandum of law.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 16, 2021

/s/ Patrick M. Harrington

Patrick M. Harrington, Esq.

Danielle Goebel, Esq.

DILWORTH PAXSON LLP

1500 Market Street, 1500E

Philadelphia, PA 19102

Tel: 215-575-7000

Attorneys for Defendants

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
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CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL OF
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ALAN R. COHEN

Defendants.

Case No. 2:18-cv-02880-NIQA

**DEFENDANT’S MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF MOTION *IN LIMINE* TO
LIMIT THE TESTIMONY OF LISA GERMANIS**

Defendants Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, Eleni Lantzouni, Jennifer Louis-Jacques, Michele Zucker, Leela Jackson, Katie Hoeveler, Mortimer Poncz, and Alan R. Cohen (“Defendants”), by and through their undersigned counsel, hereby submit the following memorandum of law in support of its motion *in limine* to limit the testimony of Lisa Germanis to only (1) the duration of Plaintiff’s employment, and (2) Plaintiff’s salary.

Plaintiff intends to offer the testimony of Lisa Germanis for “knowledge of income loss.” [Pretrial Memo, ECF 83, at p.8.] During the Final Pretrial Conference conducted on January 14, 2021, Counsel for Defendants raised the issue of Ms. Germanis’ testimony, and specifically that Plaintiff cannot offer her testimony as to future income loss as Ms. Germanis is not a disclosed expert and the deadline for expert disclosure and reports had long since passed. In response the Court agreed with Counsel and instructed Plaintiff that she may present testimony from Ms.

Germanis, but that such testimony be limited to only (1) the duration of Plaintiff's employment, and (2) Plaintiff's salary. Plaintiff agreed to abide by the Court's direction.

Plaintiff represented in a January 30, 2021 letter to Defendants, attached hereto in pertinent part, as Exhibit A, that Plaintiff does not intend to limit Ms. Germanis' testimony as directed by the Court and as previously agreed to by Plaintiff but rather "Plaintiff has NOT agreed that Dr. Germanis' testimony will be limited to verification of detail of Plaintiff's previous employment only." [Ex. A.] (Emphasis in original.) As Ms. Germanis has not been disclosed as an expert, Plaintiff should be barred from offering her as an expert on the issue of future lost earnings. Furthermore, Plaintiff should be barred from offering testimony from Ms. Germanis on any issue other than (1) the duration of Plaintiff's employment, and (2) Plaintiff's salary, as this is what Plaintiff agreed to during the Final Pretrial Conference.

I. ARGUMENT

The Court has inherent authority to manage the cases brought before it. Included within that authority is the Court's discretion to exclude evidence in "appropriate cases" upon a movant's motion *in limine*. See *Sweitzer v. Oxmaster, Inc.*, No. 09-5606, 2011 WL 721907, at *1 (E.D. Pa. Mar. 2, 2011) (citing *Luce v. U.S.*, 469 U.S. 38, 41 n.4 (1984)). Indeed, "the Court may decide such motions to ensure the [fact finder] is not exposed to unfairly prejudicial, confusing, or irrelevant evidence, even if doing so may limit a party's defenses." *U.S. v. Romano*, 849 F.2d 812, 815 (3d Cir. 1988). More practically, the purpose of an motion *in limine* is to "narrow the evidentiary issues for trial and to eliminate unnecessary trial interruptions." *Bradley v. Pittsburg Bd. of Educ.*, 913 F.2d 1064, 1069 (3d Cir. 1990)

"Evidence is relevant if: (a) it has any tendency to make a fact more or less probable than it would be without the evidence . . ." Fed. R. Evid. 401. "Irrelevant evidence is not admissible." Fed. R. Evid. 402. In addition, Federal Rule of Evidence 403 provides, in pertinent part: "The

court may exclude relevant evidence if its probative value is substantially outweighed by a danger of one or more of the following: unfair prejudice, confusing the issues . . .”

A. The Witness Is Not A Designated Expert And Plaintiff Agreed, Before The Court, To Not Offer Her As An Expert

A fundamental requirement with respect to any witnesses who are to provide expert testimony is that they provide in advance an expert report which fairly puts parties on notice of the opinions they intend to offer at trial. Indeed, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26, disclosure of expert witnesses must be accompanied by a written report. See F.R.C.P 26(a)(2). Pursuant to Rule 37 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the failure to disclose the information or identify a witness as required by Rule 26(a) or (e) results in the witness being excluded from providing evidence on a motion or at a Hearing, unless “the failure is substantially justified or is harmless.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(c)(1); *Kotes v. Super Fresh Food Markets, Inc.*, 157 F.R.D. 18, 19 (E.D. Pa. 1994).

Further, “[c]ourts may preclude testimony for parties who have failed to obey a scheduling or pretrial order.” *Kotes*, 157 F.R.D. at 19, citing Fed.R.Civ.P. 16(f), 37(b)(2)(B). Plaintiff agreed to be limited by the Court, during the Final Pretrial Conference on January 14, 2021 to limit the witness’s testimony to (1) the duration of Plaintiff’s employment, and (2) Plaintiff’s salary. Plaintiff cannot, after the fact, decide that she chooses to disregard the Court’s direction and her agreement before it.

II. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Defendants respectfully request that the Court grant its motion *in limine* and limit the testimony of Lisa Germanis to (1) the duration of Plaintiff's employment, and (2) Plaintiff's salary.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 16, 2021

/s/ Patrick M. Harrington

Patrick M. Harrington, Esq.

Danielle Goebel, Esq.

DILWORTH PAXSON LLP

1500 Market Street, 1500E

Philadelphia, PA 19102

Tel: 215-575-7000

Attorneys for Defendants

Exhibit A

City of Philadelphia, Department of Human Services Custodian of Records	1515 Arch St. Philadelphia, PA	Defendants have retracted their stipulation to authenticity of documents
State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family Therapists and Professional Counselor Custodian of Records	P.O. Box 2649 Harrisburg, PA	Defendants have retracted their stipulation to authenticity of documents
Eileen Ross	Nemours duPont Pediatrics 833 Chestnut St. E., Suite 300 Philadelphia, PA 19107	Defendants have retracted their stipulation to authenticity of documents
Kathleen Ross	255 S 17th St Philadelphia, PA 19103	Plaintiff has withdrawn this witness.
David Lee	1420 Walnut St #1412, Philadelphia, PA 19102	Plaintiff has withdrawn this witness.
Lisa Germanis	Pennsylvania SPCA 350 E Erie Ave Philadelphia, PA, 19134	Plaintiff has NOT agreed that Dr. Germanis' testimony will be limited to verification of details of Plaintiff's previous employment only. Defendants will agree to Dr. Germanis' testimony only to the duration of Plaintiff's employment and salary.

DEFENDANTS' WITNESSES

Name	Address	Agreements
Kathryn Gay	1830 Manning Street Unit 3 Philadelphia, PA 19103	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Patrick Harrington, do hereby certify that on this date I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Motion *in limine* to be served by the Court's ECF system to all counsel and unrepresented parties of record

Dated: February 16, 2021

/s/ Patrick M. Harrington

Patrick M. Harrington, Esq.

Danielle Goebel, Esq.

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